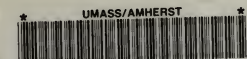


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CELEBRATE DISCOVERY

COMMITTEES  
DEC 09 1992  
University of Massachusetts  
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# 1992

## *Commemorative Calendar of Events*

MASSACHUSETTS

923/37

*In 1492 ...  
Christopher  
Columbus Set Out  
To Prove Something.*

*In 1972 ...  
We Did The Same.*

*In 1492, popular opinion said that the world was flat. A young sailor named Christopher Columbus thought differently. He set sail on a voyage of discovery, and found America !!*

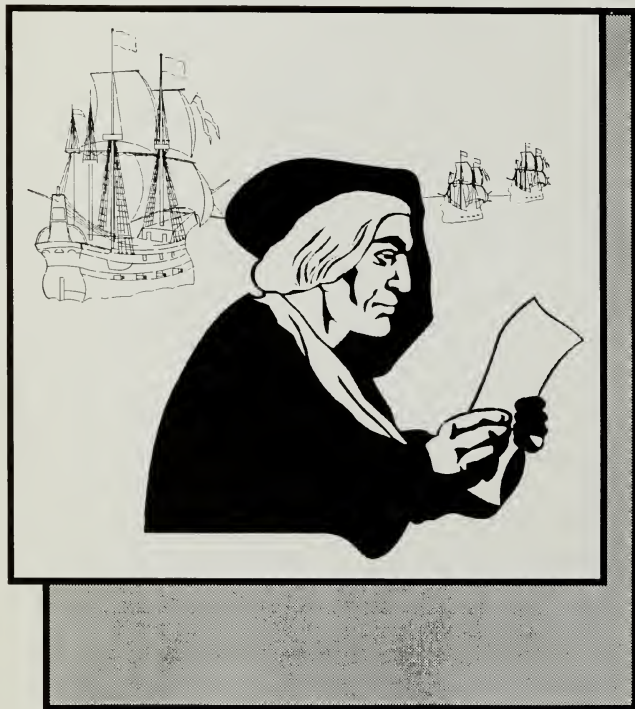
*In 1972, an independent insurance agent named Arthur Remillard, Jr. also set sail on a voyage of discovery. When other companies were choosing to give-up their private passenger automobile insurance market in Massachusetts, Mr. Remillard had the courage to fill the void. He formed The Commerce Insurance Company, and began writing automobile insurance. As the company grew, it expanded, and today Commerce is not only the largest automobile insurer in Massachusetts, but also writes a complete line of coverages for personal and business needs.*

*We at Commerce salute the spirit of discovery embodied by Christopher Columbus, as we rededicate our own company to the never-ending process of growth and discovery.*

***Caring*** in everything we do.

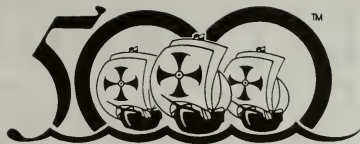
**The Commerce Insurance Company**

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*Chairman*

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MARIE J. PARENTE  
*Vice Chairman*



## WELCOME:

It is 1992 and time to Celebrate Discovery!, that spirit of exploration and innovation represented by Christopher Columbus, who began it all back in 1492 with three ships, an eclectic crew and financing from Spanish rulers. The young Italian explorer has since taken his share of bows and blows, but few question his courage and everyone praises his "spirit." And it is his spirit, the spirit of Discovery, that we invite you to share with us in this Quincentennial year.

The Massachusetts Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Commission and Celebrate Discovery, Inc., a nonprofit group coordinating celebratory programming, welcome your participation. Listed in this commemorative calendar are all of the Quincentennial activities endorsed by the Commission and celebrate discovery. There are activities planned for all areas of the state that reflect a broad cross section of groups interested in commemorating the 500th anniversary of Columbus' voyages.

The role of the Commission and Celebrate Discovery primarily has been to encourage diverse and multicultural programming at the local community level. Massachusetts was the first state in 1984 to organize Quincentennial plans. Our aim is to be an impetus for individuals, corporations, communities, church, and civic organizations to undertake activities which celebrate and inspire discoveries... discoveries about our world, ourselves, our communities, and the daily miracles of life surrounding us; discoveries in science, in art, in medicine, and in the diverse and rich cultures which comprise the communities of our state.

The people of the Commonwealth have a long tradition of discovery and innovation. We invented the telephone, anesthesiology, the microwave, Concord grape juice, the shoe lasting machine, and the first analog computer, to name a few. The Columbus 500th project is an ideal opportunity for us to celebrate those past successes and call attention to the potential of Massachusetts as a leader in finding new and better ways to do things.

Join in and help us make the Massachusetts 1492-1992 Columbus Quincentennial observance a memorable experience. Help us explore the past, learn from it and celebrate those things that will make us better citizens and a better state beyond 1992.

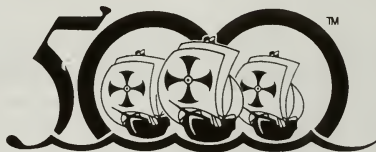
Sincerely,

Senator Louis P. Bertonazzi, Chairman  
Massachusetts Christopher Columbus  
Quincentennial Commission



# CELEBRATE DISCOVERY

Celebrate Discovery, Inc. is the non-profit organization conducting Massachusetts's celebration of the 500th anniversary



CELEBRATE DISCOVERY

sary of the voyages of Christopher Columbus. CDI was established in 1989 by the Massachusetts Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Commission, chaired by Senator Louis P. Bertonazzi (D-Milford). The commission, appointed by the governor, is officially designated

by the state to plan and coordinate all quincentennial activities.

CDI and the commission have adopted the leg-

endary explorers' "spirit," the Spirit of Discovery, as the focus of the state's quincentennial activities. We are using the occasion of the 500th anniversary of Columbus's voyages to highlight the commonwealth's long tradition of discovery and innovation.

§

## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS, 1992 STATEWIDE CELEBRATIONS

This Commemorative Calendar of Events provides a listing of quincentennial activities that are officially endorsed by CDI and the state quincentennial commission. To qualify for endorsement, the activity must:

- be not for profit (although fees may be charged to cover expenses involved), and sponsored by non-profit organizations;
- be non-exclusionary, with all events open to the public;
- increase awareness of the quincentennial of the voyages of discovery;
- be educational in nature; and
- promote understanding of the diverse cultures that Massachusetts comprises.

## INNOVATIVE COMPANIES TO MAKE HONOR ROLL

In both 1991 and 1992 Celebrate Discovery created a Massachusetts Honor Roll of Innovation and Discovery to recognize companies who innovatively improved their businesses, their work places, or the lives of citi-

zens in their communities. Over 100 companies have been so honored, and we hope this program will serve as a lasting reminder of the Spirit of Discovery that is such a part of our Massachusetts heritage.

## AWARD DINNER TO HONOR NOBEL PRIZE LAUREATES

CDI's premier quincentennial event is a special dinner to be held October 9, 1992, honoring all the Nobel Prize laureates who live and work in Massachusetts. The dinner also provides the occasion for the presentation of the first annual Massachusetts Columbus Quincentennial Award. The Massachusetts Hospital Association and the Massachusetts Medical Society are sponsoring this major event.

While the Nobel laureates of today explore frontiers strikingly different from those of Christopher Columbus, Celebrate Discovery, Inc. recognizes that they are motivated by the same spirit of discovery that continues to influence the course of history.

To assure a lasting legacy of the quincentennial, the Columbus Award will be given each year to an individual or team of individuals who can be credited with a significant innovation or discovery within the last five years. The accounting firm of Ernst & Young will en-



## CELEBRATE DISCOVERY

### CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS COMMISSION AND CELEBRATE DISCOVERY, INC. SPONSOR FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM

Beginning in 1989, the Massachusetts Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Commission and Celebrate Discovery, Inc. established a thematic program commemorating the 500th anniversary of Columbus's voyages. The four-year series of events and activities highlights the spirit of Christopher Columbus — the spirit of discovery! The programs' goal is simple: to involve all community sectors — corporate, business, service, and government — and provide Massachusetts with a comprehensive commemorative program that includes, but goes far beyond, parties and parades. The following is a list of jointly sponsored activities:

- **OCTOBER 11, 1988:** the Grand Inaugural of Celebrate Discovery! Representatives of various community sectors gathered at the John F. Kennedy Library for the first event, featuring a historian and futurist.
- **OCTOBER 8, 1990:** the public unveiling of the AIDS Strategy Book. The book was the 1990 Quincentennial project and was distributed to every city and town in the state. A press conference at Cambridge City Hall was attended by community leaders and human-service providers. The book was the nation's first comprehensive AIDS resource that specifically addressed the concerns of local officials.
- **APRIL 28, 1991:** the establishment of the Massachusetts Honor Roll of Innovation and Discovery. More than 60 Massachusetts companies were honored at a State House ceremony, for improving their businesses, their work places, or the lives of citizens in their communities in innovative or creative ways.
- **OCTOBER 14, 1991:** a Plea for Justice and Peace in the World. This event, held at the Old North Church, brought together representatives of the many nations touched by Columbus's voyages to light lanterns and discuss the impact of the voyages.
- **MAY 18, 1992:** the Second Annual Massachusetts Honor Roll of Discovery and Innovation.
- **OCTOBER 8, 1992:** the Quincentennial Nobel Prize Dinner and Columbus Award Presentation.

sure that the award, funded by an endowment, is given in perpetuity.

### FESTIVITIES PLANNED FOR COLUMBUS DAY WEEKEND

Columbus Day weekend 1992 promises to be the most exciting ever. Parades, Native American ceremonies, forums on cultural relations, and an international bocce tournament are just some of the activities that communities are planning for the Days of Discovery, celebrating the 500th anniversary of an event that changed the face of the world.

The multi-cultural activities will present opportunities for fun, as well as for thoughtful reflection. Celebrate Discovery, Inc.'s Commemorative Calendar of Events and other publications will list many of these activities.

### CELEBRATE DISCOVERY T-SHIRTS

Celebrate the spirit of innovation and discovery in style. Celebrate Discovery, Inc. T-shirts can be ordered by calling (800) 962-3333. Groups meeting the criteria

for being listed in the Commemorative Calendar of Events may order shirts individualized with their organization's name.

### AN INNOVATIVE AIDS-AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

In 1989, Celebrate Discovery, Inc. produced an *AIDS Strategy Book* to increase awareness of AIDS in Massachusetts. The book, which was distributed to elected officials throughout the commonwealth, can be ordered by sending a check for \$45 to the Celebrate Discovery, Inc. office.

### CELEBRATE DISCOVERY, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CELEBRATE DISCOVERY

This publication is funded (in part) by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Economic Affairs/Office of Travel and Tourism.

This calendar of Columbus Quincentennial events in Massachusetts was produced by the *Boston Phoenix* under the direction of Harron Ellenson and Traci Miringoff of Harron & Associates for Celebrate Discovery, Inc., a 501C3 organization created by the Massachusetts Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Commission. The publication was edited by Scott Cardwell, written by Clif Garboden, and designed by Cleo Leontis.

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# DISCOVERY CALENDAR

A QUICK-REFERENCE GUIDE TO EVENTS LISTED ON PAGES 9-12

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All events listed are officially endorsed by the Massachusetts Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Commission, chaired by Senator Louis P. Bertonazzi (D-Milford), and Celebrate Discovery, Inc. Children's activities are also included. Other events, not officially endorsed, are included for public interest. Events are listed by date. For more information and phone numbers, see the complete calendar listing on page 9.

## APRIL

**APRIL 1-DECEMBER 23, 1992**, Custom House Maritime Museum, "Great Voyages"/"In the Spirit of Discovery," Newburyport

**APRIL 13-MAY 29, 1992**, American Antiquarian Society, "After Columbus: 250 Years of Conflict," Worcester

## MAY

**MAY, 1992**, Museums of Boston, Greater Boston

**MAY, 1992**, New England Wild Flower Society, Inc., "Exploring Nature's Edible Plants," Framingham

**MAY, 1992**, Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, various programs cen-



**New England wildflowers,  
Garden in the Woods**

tered on Native American perspectives and concerns, Cambridge

**MAY 13, 1992**, Cambridge Arts Council, "Discovery at the Dante," Cambridge

**MAY 14, 1992**, Peabody Museum, lecture series: "The Columbus Effect: Native Americans and the European Arrival in New England"/gallery talks and children's classes, Salem

**MAY 15, 1992**, the Children's Discovery Museum, "Let's Explore the World of Dinosaurs!", Acton

**MAY 16, 1992**, Haverhill Columbus Quincentennial Committee, Chil-

dren's Festival, Haverhill

**MAY 16-17, 1992**, WestFest, Inc., "Discovery of the Arts and Crafts," Westfield

**MAY 21, 1992**, the Science Discovery Museum, Acton

**SUMMER, 1992**, Boston Italian Community, Boston

## JUNE

**JUNE, 1992**, Salem State College, "The Expansion of Europe," Salem

**JUNE, JULY, 1992**, Civic Days, "Celebrating 500 Years of Heritage and History, 1492-1992," Fitchburg

**JUNE 6, 1992**, COMITES, "Italian Republic Day," North Square, Boston

**JUNE 8, 1992**, 7:30 p.m., Germantown Children's Troupe, Quincy

**JUNE 11-14, 1992**, Framingham Celebration Committee, "America 1492-1992," Framingham

**JUNE 13, 1992**, Cambridge Arts Council, Second Annual Cambridge International Fair, "Discovery in Central Square," Cambridge

**JUNE 13, 1992**, Haverhill Columbus Quincentennial Committee, Mardi Gras Festival, Haverhill

**JUNE 14, 1992**, Don Orione Madonna Queen National Shrine, "Thanksgiving from the Family of Humankind," East Boston

**JUNE 14, 1992**, Grand Lodge of Mas-





*Sloop of War Merrimack, 28 Guns. Capt. Moses Brown, U.S.N. Com'd'g. 1798.*

## "Great Voyages" at the Custom House Maritime Museum, Newburyport

sachusetts OSIA, Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Essay Awards Reception, Boston

**JUNE 20-JULY 15, 1992**, Fall River Heritage State Park, "The Age of the Discoveries," Fall River

**JUNE 23-AUGUST 31, 1992**, Small Ships Mural, South Station, Boston

## JULY

**JULY 4, 1992**, Your Hometown America Parade, Pittsfield

**JULY 10-17, 1992**, Quincy 200th Anniversary and Birthday Party, Quincy

**JULY 11-16, 1992**, the Grand Regatta Columbus '92 Quincentenary, Boston

**JULY 12, 1992**, West Indian Jamboree, Boston

**JULY 15-19, 1992**, *Marrano!*, University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth

**JULY 17-19, 1992**, Fall River Celebrates America, Fall River

**JULY 22, 1992**, Festival Puertorriqueño, South End

**JULY 24-26, 1992**, the Great New England Airshow, Westover Air Force Base, Westover

**JULY 30-AUGUST 2, 1992**, Portuguese Festival and Parade, New Bedford

## AUGUST

**AUGUST 3-12, 1992**, Spanish Caravels, Boston

**AUGUST 13-16, 1992**, 81st Annual Fishermen's Feast, Boston

**AUGUST 18, 1992**, South Boston Italian Pride Night, South Boston

**AUGUST 22, 1992**, Caribbean Carnival, Boston

**AUGUST 29-30, 1992**, First Lake Quinsigamond Native American Pow-Wow, Worcester

## SEPTEMBER

**SEPTEMBER, 1992**, Paul Revere Memorial Association and Old South Association

ciation, "In the Shadow of Columbus: Ethnic Influences in New England History," Boston

**SEPTEMBER 3-7, 1992**, Taste of Massachusetts, City Hall Plaza, Boston

**SEPTEMBER 1-13, 1992**, Haverhill Columbus Quincentennial Committee, Haverhill

**SEPTEMBER 16-DECEMBER 13, 1992**, Museum of Fine Arts, Italian Art Exhibit, Boston

**SEPTEMBER 16, 1992**, Circus Wagon Parade, West Springfield

**SEPTEMBER 16-27, 1992**, Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield

**SEPTEMBER 26, 1992**, Peabody Museum, Native American Land Symposium, Salem

**SEPTEMBER 29-MAY 30, 1992**, Children's Museum, Holyoke

## OCTOBER

**OCTOBER 2, 1992-JANUARY 2, 1993**, Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum, Inc., "Columbus and the New World



## "The Lure of Italy: American Artists and the Italian Experience, 1760-1914" at the MFA

of Philately," Weston

**OCTOBER 4, 1992**, Milford Quincentennial Committee, the Quincentennial "Mega" Parade, Milford

**OCTOBER 9-12, 1992**, Columbus Day in Lowell, Lowell

**OCTOBER 9-12, 1992**, Haverhill Columbus Quincentennial Committee, "Weekend of Discovery," Haverhill

**OCTOBER 10, 1992**, Spirit of Springfield, Columbus Day Parade, Springfield

**OCTOBER 10, 1992**, Harvest Festival, "Natives Welcoming Newcomers," Leverett

**OCTOBER 10, 1992**, Spirit of Springfield, Carnivale Di Columbus Ball/ the Largest Pasta Dinner, Springfield

**OCTOBER 11, 1992**, the Bristol Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus, "What Brought Us Together," New Bedford

**OCTOBER 12, 1992**, Columbus Day Parade, Boston

**OCTOBER 12, 1992**, Columbus Day Parade Committee, Columbus Day Parade, Worcester

## NOVEMBER

**NOVEMBER 7, 1992-JANUARY 3, 1993**, Springfield Library and Museums, "Faces of Eternity: Masks of the Pre-Columbian Americas," plus "Con-temporary Festival Masks from Puer-

to Rico," Springfield

**NOVEMBER 12-15, 1992**, International Festival, World Trade Center, Boston

**FEBRUARY 14-DECEMBER 27, 1992**, Museum of Transportation, "Different by Design," Brookline

**1992**, Berkshire Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Committee, various events, Pittsfield

**1992**, Newton Pride Corporation, Quincentennial Committee, Poetry Contest and Reading/Crafts on Columbus, Newton

**1992**, Live Oaks and Company, various musical and dramatic pieces, West Newton

**1992**, Underground Railway Theatre, "The Christopher Columbus Folies" and "The Discovery of Columbus," Arlington

**1992**, Milford Quincentennial Commission, various events, Milford

**1992**, Newton Pride Corporation, Quincentennial Committee, Reading and Book Party/Lectures, Newton

**1992**, the Children's Museum of Boston, "If We Could Talk to Columbus," various performances and a Native American Pow-Wow, Boston

**1992**, Andover Newton Theological School, Seven-Part Lecture Series "When Cultures Collide: 1492-1992," Andover

**1992**, Boston Society of Architects, Boston

**1992/1993**, New England Tour of the American Indian Dance Theatre, Boston/Amherst

## RESOURCES:

Byam School, "Discover America," Chelmsford

The Eire Society of Boston Bulletin, February-March 1992 volume

Kennedy Middle School, "Paths to Discovery," Natick

Wheelock College, "Columbus Quincentenary 1492-1992: Selected Titles for the Elementary School Classroom," Boston

## OTHER EVENTS

**SPRING 1992**, Lynn Heritage State Park, various events, Lynn

**MAY 16, 1992**, Boston Kite Festival, Boston

**JUNE 4, 1992**, the US Cup 1992, Boston

**JUNE 12-13, 1992**, Copley Square Book Festival, Boston

**JUNE 28, 1992**, Wild Goose Chase (canoe race), Pittsfield

**JULY 4, 1992**, Independence Run, Pittsfield

**JULY 4, 1992**, Picnic on the Common, Pittsfield

**SEPTEMBER, 1992**, Faneuil Hall "Rock the Cradle" Events, Boston.

# DISCOVERY EVENTS

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Please note: the Celebrate Discovery, Inc. designation (♦) indicates that the program or activity is officially endorsed by the Massachusetts Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Commission, chaired by Senator Louis P. Bertonazzi (D-Milford), and Celebrate Discovery, Inc. Children's activities are also marked (♣). Other events, not officially endorsed, are included for public interest. Events are listed by region and category.

## WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

### FESTIVALS/PARADES

- ♦ • WestFest, Westfield, May 16-17. "Discovery of the Arts and Crafts" is a two-day festival at Stanley Park, in Westfield, featuring the works of more than 30 artists. Performing arts displays and demonstrations, youth activities, and a youth art show are also included. Call (413) 562-5531.
- ♦ • Your Hometown America Parade, Pittsfield, July 4. "Discover America" is the theme for Pittsfield's 1992 parade, the only parade in the country being televised live via PBS

and the Armed Forces Television Network. The parade includes celebrities, 29 marching units from the United States and Canada, giant helium balloons, and floats depicting themes, from Columbus discovering America to what "discovering" America is about. Call (413) 499-3861.

♦ • Circus Wagon Parade, West Springfield, Sept. 16. The first authentic horse-drawn circus parade in New England since 1938 features the Pawnee Bill Bandwagon, built in 1903, and depicts Columbus's discovery of America. Parade begins at 4:30 p.m. Also visit the exhibit of circus memorabilia from the Circus World Museum, Baraboo, Wisconsin, Sept. 16-27. An ornate circus wagon is showcased in the daily parade at 4:30. Call (413) 737-BIGE.

♦ • Spirit of Springfield, Oct. 10. Springfield's Columbus Day Parade, beginning on Main Street, 2 to 5 p.m. Call (413) 739-3871.

♦ • Harvest Festival, Leverett, Oct. 10. "Natives Welcoming Newcomers" includes a Town Report dedication and a musical, *Welcome, Newcomer*. Visit the button booth, the Leverett information booth, and era sites representing the town's history. Contact Annette Gibavic, (413) 548-9082.

### EVENTS

♦ • Berkshire Quincentennial, Pittsfield, 1992. The Berkshire Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Committee sponsors many events this year:

May 30, dinner dance at ITAM Lodge. Contact Charlene Rosa, (413) 499-3000.

July 9, Boston Camerata singers perform at Tanglewood Music Grounds, Lenox, at 8:30 p.m. Also, Spanish and Italian food prepared 1492-style. Contact Francis Spina and Amy Yanni, (413) 443-5957.

July 24-25, County Bocce Tournament at the Italian American Club, Newell Street, Pittsfield, 10 a.m. Contact Don Luccaroni, (413) 447-9492.

Aug. 2, Re-enactment of Columbus's departure, Pontoosac Lake, Pittsfield; refreshments and ecumenical service follow launch. Contact Jeff Welch, (413) 443-7134.

Aug. 10, Awards Night honoring students for excellence in school, at the ITAM Lodge. Contact Francis Fazio or Steve Cozzaglio, (413) 443-7134.

♦ • Independence Run, Pittsfield, July 4. More than 700 runners (this



year Christopher Columbus included!) participate in one of the Northeast's largest five-kilometer races. Sponsored with the Berkshire Medical Center, the race begins at 9:30 a.m. along the parade route. Call (413) 499-3861.

♦ • The Great New England Airshow, July 24-26. Westover Air Force Base showcases various aircraft, including those from World War II and Desert Storm. Also appearing is the 65-member jet team of the Italian Air Force. Call 557-7469.

• Invitational Bocce Tournament, Pittsfield, Aug. 23-24. Top-performance, qualified four-man bocce teams compete for prize money at the Italian American Club, Newell Street, Pittsfield. Contact Don Lucaroni, (413) 447-9492.

♦ • CRAFTSADVENTURE, West Springfield, Aug. 28-30. "Discovery 1492-1992" is the theme, with various events, displays, and competitions. Programs are educational and promote cross-cultural exchange and understanding. CRAFTSADVENTURE is an Eastern States Exposition program. The "Big E" runs from Sept. 16 through Sept. 27. Call (413) 737-BIGE.

♦ • Re-enactment of Columbus's Landing, Pittsfield, Oct. 10. Replica of the Santa Maria lands beside the ITAM Lodge on the shores of Pon-toosac Lake at 2 p.m. Semi-formal Gala Columbus Day Dinner Dance in the evening. Call (413) 443-7134.

♦ • Spirit of Springfield, Oct. 10. To celebrate its 80th anniversary, the Prince Company hosts "The Largest Pasta Dinner," 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Columbus Avenue. Carnival di Columbus Ball, 7-11 p.m. (Location to be announced.) Contact Spirit of Springfield, 101 State St., Suite 220, Springfield, 01103; (413) 733-3800.

♦ • Wild Goose Chase, Pittsfield, June 28. Canoe race features amateur and professional teams (and perhaps Columbus himself). Race is held on Onota Lake, Pittsfield, at 10 a.m. Call (413) 499-3861.

♦ • Picnic on the Common, Pittsfield, July 4. Unique crafts, entertainment, and food highlight this family-oriented event. Picnic in the Common Park on First Street from noon to 4 p.m. Call (413) 499-3861.

## PERFORMANCES

♦ • American Indian Dance Theatre,

Amherst, Sept. 21-25 and 30. The troupe performs at the University of Massachusetts campus. Contact 207 Hasbrouck Lab, Amherst, 01003; or call Barbara Aldrich, (413) 545-0190.

♦ Italian Men's Chorus, Sept. 29-Oct. 12. Thirty-two man singing group from northern Italy performs in Berkshire County, Springfield, and Boston areas. Contact Ido Merlini, (413) 637-2960.

## MUSEUMS/EXHIBITS

♦ ♦ • Children's Museum, Holyoke, Sept. 29-May 30. Children make and use their own maps in a participatory exhibit emphasizing navigation (using maps to move from place to place) and information (using maps to learn about the natural and human environment). The museum is located at 444 Dwight St., at Heritage Park, Holyoke. Call (413) 536-KIDS.

♦ • Springfield Library and Museums, Nov. 7, 1992-Jan. 3, 1993. The Museum of Fine Arts at the Quadrangle in Springfield hosts "Faces of Eternity: Masks of the Pre-Columbian Americas," featuring 83 masks dating from 1000 BC to the 1500s, representing native cultures of the Americas. Also, "Contemporary Festival Masks from Puerto Rico," 15 colorful papier-mâché masks worn to celebrate saints' days. Call (413) 732-6092.

## CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS

### FESTIVALS/PARADES

♦ • Fitchburg Civic Days, Summer 1992. "Celebrating 500 Years of Heritage and History, 1492-1992" is the theme for Fitchburg's 1992 Civic Days. The city is also celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Fitchburg Historical Society. Events include: June 26, Senior Awards, Fitchburg Senior Center.

June 27, Community Day at Coolidge Park, featuring concerts, exhibitions, vendors, a youth road race, and fireworks.

July 2-5, Longio Classic Bicycle Race Events.

July 4, parade at 10 a.m. on Summer Street.

Contact Jack McCarthy for Civic Days, (508) 345-1018; Denise Bar-

ber for the parade, (508) 345-9550; Paul Mailloux for Community Day, (508) 345-4880 or Patty Haxton, (508) 345-1236.

♦ • First Lake Quinsigamond Native American Pow-Wow, Aug. 29-30. Native American drumming, dancing, singing, and crafts are highlighted at Lake Park, on Lake Avenue, Worcester. Contact Paula "Mountain Spirit" Whynot, (508) 832-8173.

♦ • Milford Quincentennial Mega Parade, Oct. 4. The parade begins at 12:30 on Main Street with state and national dignitaries, marching bands, drill teams, military units, and floats. Contact Dr. Nunzio J. Bonina, (508) 473-4570.

♦ • Columbus Day Parade, Worcester, Oct. 12. Worcester's annual parade begins on the corner of Shrewsbury and Belmont streets at 12:30 p.m., with floats, bands, and marching units. Contact the mayor's office, (508) 799-1153.

♦ • Framingham Celebration Committee, June 11-14. Celebration Weekend's theme is "AMERICA 1492-1992," with an NEAC-sanctioned race, softball tournament, band concert, Flag Day Ball, Flag Day Parade, and a participatory Flag Retirement Ceremony presented by the Framingham Veterans' Council. Contact Framingham Celebration Committee, (508) 620-4842; for softball tournament, contact Bob Merusi, (508) 620-4834.

## EVENTS

♦ • American Antiquarian Society, April 13-May 29. "After Columbus: 250 Years of Conflict" is presented at Worcester's American Antiquarian Society. Call (508) 755-5221.

♦ • Milford Quincentennial Commission, 1992. Celebrations include: May 12, Quincentennial Fashion Show at the Century House on Cedar Street.

May 16, Meadow Muffin Field Day at Milford High School.

May 24, Farewell to Milford Cinema, 6-8 p.m.

May 24, American classic movie and old-fashioned vaudeville, featuring local performers, Milford Cinema, 8 p.m.

July 4, Soap Box Derby, Central Street, 1 p.m.

Aug. 28-30, Miss Quincentennial Pageant at David Davoren Auditorium.

Oct. 2, activity and arts and crafts





### "We Claim These Shores" at the Peabody Museum of Salem

exhibits at Milford Town Hall.  
 Oct. 2, bonfire at Fino Field Annex, 9 p.m.  
 Oct. 2-3, Bocce Tournament at Italian War Veterans-Hayward Field.  
 Oct. 3, Quincentennial Gala Ball at Milford State Armory.  
 Contact Dr. Nunzio J. Bonina, (508) 473-4570.

## SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

### FESTIVALS/PARADES

♦ • Fall River Celebrates America, July 17-19. Battleship Cove is the site of Fall River's celebration of the Quincentennial, 25th anniversary of the Massachusetts colonial navy, and the 10th anniversary of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Quequechan Flotil-

la. Highlights include Parade of Tall Ships led by the Portuguese Naval Training Ship Sagres II, six-division parade (Sunday at 1 p.m.), food fair, National Championship Speed Boat Races, Children's Entertainment Center, Ninja Turtle Expo, fireworks (Saturday at 9 p.m.), concerts, exhibits, antiques, and a special stamp cancellation. Events held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Call (508) 676-8227.

♦ • Feast of Blessed Sacrament, New Bedford, July 30 to Aug. 2. America's largest Portuguese Feast is held at Madeira Field, Madeira Avenue, and features entertainment, raffles, giant midway, Portuguese and American foods, and parade. Feast runs Thursday and Friday, 6 p.m.-midnight; Saturday and Sunday, noon to midnight. Parade is Sunday at 2 p.m., starting at Brooklawn Park, Acushnet Avenue. Call (508) 992-6911.

### PERFORMANCES

♦ • *Marrano!* July 15-19. The play espouses the theory that Columbus was Jewish, was forced to convert to Catholicism due to the Inquisition, but secretly practiced his faith with other Marranos. His journey was not only one of discovery, but also of searching for a homeland for his people. Broadway-bound, the play will run in repertory through Aug. 23. Contact Terri Cabral, (508) 999-8893.

### MUSEUMS/EXHIBITS

♦ • Fall River Heritage State Park, June 20-July 15. "The Age of the Discoveries" exhibit features maps and charts from the 14th century on, along with an impressive collection of engravings and artifacts, showing that the discoveries were a continuous and

gradual process. Moral misgivings and human consequences are presented as well. Call (508) 675-5759.

## NORTHERN MASSACHUSETTS

### FESTIVALS/PARADES

♦ ♦ • Haverhill Columbus Quincennial Committee events include:

May 16, Haverhill Children's Festival. Celebrate the community's heritage and tradition, emphasizing discovery, invention, and innovation. Enjoy an art and photography show, children's theater, treasure hunt, nature activities, crafts, John Greenleaf Whittier booth, and a special program starring the cast of WGBH's *Where in the World is Carmen San Diego?*

June 13, Mardi Gras.

Sept. 11-13, Septemberfest, featuring ethnic music, food, and entertainers.

Contact Diane Franz, (508) 521-5108.

### EVENTS

♦ • Columbus Day in Lowell, Oct. 9-12. Lowell's events include a banquet, lectures, an art show, cameos from Italian operas, and a flag-raising ceremony on Oct. 12 at City Hall. Contact M. James Spinelli, (508) 459-2104.

### MUSEUMS/EXHIBITS

♦ • Custom House Maritime Museum, Newburyport, April 1-Dec. 23. "Great Voyages — Christopher Columbus and Admiral Perry" are highlighted in this exhibit, along with Japanese and American ship models. Call (508) 462-8681.

♦ • Peabody Museum, Salem, April 16, 1992 through Jan. 15, 1993. "We Claim These Shores: Native Americans and the European Settlement of Massachusetts" outlines the historical prelude to the initial encounters between Native Americans and European settlers. The exhibit's purpose is to help inaugurate the next 500 years with a better knowledge of the past and a deeper appreciation for all New Englanders. Contact the Peabody Museum, (508) 745-1876.

♦ • Cushing House Museum, Newburyport, May 1 through Oct. 31.

"In the Spirit of Discovery" celebrates Newburyport people who made significant personal or public discoveries through travels, explorations, and inventions. Call (508) 462-2681.

♦ • Haverhill "Weekend of Discovery," Oct. 9-12. All historical buildings, libraries, associations, museums, and other facilities are open to the public. Contact the mayor's office, (508) 374-2300.

### EVENTS

• Lynn Heritage State Park, Spring 1992. Lynn Heritage State Park, the National Park Service, and the Salem Maritime National Historic Site co-sponsor events. Contact the State Park, 590 Washington St., Lynn, 01901; 598-1974.

### LECTURES

♦ • Andover Newton Theological School, 1992. "When Cultures Collide: 1492-1992" is a seven-part lecture series held at 7:30 p.m. on various dates, in Stoddard Hall, on the Andover campus. Contact Joseph Broughton, 964-1100, ext. 209.

♦ • Peabody Museum, Salem, May 14. "The Columbus Effect: Native Americans and the European Arrival in New England." William Cronon, author of "Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England," discusses the ecological effect of the European arrival on the New England landscape. Wayne Newell, a Passamaquoddy educator and lecturer, discusses the impact of the European culture on Passamaquoddy history. The museum also hosts gallery talks and children's classes through January 1993. Call (508) 745-1876.

♦ • Salem State College, June 1992. "The Expansion of Europe" is a history course emphasizing the interrelationships of Europeans and the various civilizations contacted in extending the ideals of Europe to the Western Hemisphere. Contact Department of Continuing Education and Special Programs, (508) 741-6300.

♦ • Peabody Museum, Salem, Sept. 26. "These Quilted Lands: Patches, Threads, and Themes in the Nexus of Land and Culture in the Northeast, 1600-1992." Symposium addresses topics ranging from Connecticut to Quebec: relationships be-

tween homeland and cultural territory, historical changes in the status of Native Americans within the European system of land ownership, and Native American transfer and leasing of land. Call (508) 745-1876.

## SOUTH SHORE

### FESTIVALS/PARADES

• Quincy's 200th Anniversary Birthday Party, July 10-17. Programs include a band and dance competition in City Square, a blues concert in Veterans Memorial Stadium, and a foodfest and chowderfest. Tall Ships celebrations and viewing are planned, including touring ships from Marina Bay and Bay Point. Contact Scottie Miller, 847-0929.

### PERFORMANCES

♦ ♦ • Germantown Children's Troupe, Quincy, June 8. The troupe performs an original musical about Columbus and the theme of discovery through time travel, at St. Boniface Church, Palmer Street, 7:30 p.m. Contact Katherine Hogan, 773-5673.

## GREATER BOSTON

### FESTIVALS/PARADES

♦ • Cambridge Arts Council, June 13. Second Annual Cambridge International Fair, "Discovery in Central Square," emphasizes the diversity of Cambridge, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. One-day festival offers performing arts, food, and crafts from around the world as well as roving street performers and community displays and activities. Enjoy Fiesta Italiano in the afternoon and Carnavale Caribeño through the early evening. Call 349-4380.

### EVENTS

♦ • Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, May 1992.

May 8, "Medicine Story," an evening of traditional storytelling from the Wampanoag Nation presents the historical Native American perspective on creation, healing, harvest, and other myths and rituals, 8 p.m.

May 8, "Wiping Away the Tears and Mending the Sacred Hoop," a slide presentation, provides historical context for the Big Foot Memorial Ride of the Lakota (Sioux) people and the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890.

May 15-16, "DEATHSONGS: Columbus and the Conquest of Paradise," uses video projections, slides, and an intricate sound track for a dramatic look at the realities of the Spanish conquest through the words of a dying Columbus and Anacaona, a female Taino leader, on the eve of her execution by Spaniards.

May 28, "Celebrating 500 Years of Cultural Survival in the Americas" culminates a year-long lecture series with performances by the Diversity Collaborative, which emphasizes the strengths embodied in the cultural traditions and history of the community, 7 p.m.

Contact the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., Cambridge, 02141; 577-1400.

♦ • Newton Pride Corporation, 1992. Deadline Aug. 14; reading on Oct. 1 — the Quincentennial Committee invites poets of all ages to submit original poems depicting contemporary responses to Columbus's voyages. Cash prizes will be awarded to three winners. Reading at the Newton Free Library, 330 Homer Street.

Oct. 3 and 4, "Crafts on Columbus," held at Albemarle Field, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., includes ethnic, cultural, visual, and performing arts festivals; community pasta party; Columbus Ball; and children's amusement rides.

Contact Newton Pride Corporation, 552-7130.

## PERFORMANCES

♦ • Cambridge Arts Council, May 13. "Discovery at the Dante" features Mayor Emeritus Alfred E. Velucci reading selections from Dante, and tenor Allen Combs singing Italian street songs. Also, Rhode Island's Cumberland Company performs theatrical combat, including Shakespearean action scenes and Italian-style fencing. Events held at the Dante Alighieri Center, 41 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Call 349-4380.

♦ • American Indian Dance Theatre, Cambridge, Oct. 7. Dance Um-

brella Boston presents the American Indian Dance Theatre at 380 Green St., Cambridge. Contact Jeremy Aliger, 492-7578.

♦ ♦ • Live Oaks and Company, 1992. Live Oaks and Company of West Newton performs ancient Spanish music, including five touring musical and dramatic pieces with discovery themes that can be booked for schools and other audiences. Call 244-1027.

## MUSEUMS/EXHIBITS

♦ • New England Wild Flower Society, May 1992. The Framingham society offers "Exploring Nature's Edible Plants," with a 45-minute slide show and guided tours of Garden in the Woods to highlight the area's wild, edible plants, many of which existed here before Columbus arrived. Learn to identify, gather, store,



Columbus stamps at the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum

♦ ♦ • Underground Railway Theatre, 1992:

May 16-17, June 4-6, 11-13, and 18-20, "The Christopher Columbus Follies: An Eco-Cabaret" examines Columbus's legacy.

April 26 and May 8, "The Discovery of Columbus," created for children, presents a unique celebration of Native American contributions to diverse world cultures.

Call the theater for full performance dates. Contact Underground Railway Theatre, 41 Foster St., Arlington, 02174; 643-6916.

and use plants in vegetable dishes, jellies, jams, and teas. Call (508) 877-7630 or (617) 237-4924.

♦ ♦ • The Discovery Museums of Acton, May 1992.

May 15, 1-2 p.m., the Children's Discovery Museum presents "Let's Explore the World of Dinosaurs." Create your own prehistoric world and its dinosaur population.

May 21, 3-4:30 p.m., the Science Discovery Museum features "Bubbles Explorations." Explore new bubble techniques by making giant bubbles, bubble chains, and bub-



bles in bubbles.

Contact both museums at 1771 Main St., Acton; (508) 264-4200.

♦ • Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum, Oct. 2, 1992-Jan. 2, 1993. The Weston museum's exhibit "Columbus and the New World of Philately" features stamps, souvenir sheets, and envelopes commemorating the discovery of America. Call 894-6735.

## LECTURES

♦ • Newton Pride Corporation Quincentenary Lecture Series, 1992. The Quincentennial Committee presents a lecture series at the Newton Free Library:

May 6, "Women As Agents of Transculturalization: Food and Medical Arts" by Brown Professor Ellen Messer.

Sept. 22, "The Legacy of Columbus," by professor, historian, and playwright Howard Zinn.

Sept. 30, "Chocolateras, the Unconventional Convent Kitchens of New Spain" by Janice Jaffe of Bowdoin College. Call 552-7130.

## BOSTON

### FESTIVALS/PARADES

♦ • The Grand Regatta Columbus '92 Quincentenary, July 11-16. Sail Boston 1992 hosts the Grand Regatta in April, when the Tall Ships sail from Cadiz, Spain. Boston, one of only two official US ports, welcomes the Grand Regatta, one of the largest flotillas of sailing ships ever, with vessels representing more than 30 countries. Enjoy parades, pavilions, concerts, street carnivals, evening performances, and fireworks displays over Boston Harbor. Contact Sail Boston at 330-1992, or call (800) 952-SAIL for a free brochure.

♦ • Columbus Day Parade, Oct. 11. Floats, bands, and marching units promenade at the East Boston parade. Contact Mayor's Office of Business and Cultural Development, 635-3911.

♦ • International Festival 1992, Nov. 12-15. Promoting cultural awareness and a better understanding of our heritage, the International Festival, held at the World Trade Center, provides a showcase that entertains as well as educates. More than 50 ethnic communities and or-

ganizations present cultural activities, art, music, dance, foods, fashion, and crafts. Call 861-9729.

• Copley Square Book Festival, June 12-13. The Boston Parks and Recreation Department hosts its first annual book fair, with up to 100 book stalls, at the newly renovated Copley Square Park (adjacent to the Boston Public Library). Festivities include children's story tellers, entertainment, readings, and music and drama performances. Call 725-4505.

## EVENTS

♦ • Boston Kite Festival, May 16. The 23rd Annual Kite Festival, held at Franklin Park, includes kite-making clinics, kite contests in various categories, musical entertainment, acrobatics, and refreshments. Call 725-4505.

♦ • Boston Italian Community, Summer 1992. Italian festivals are held every weekend throughout the summer, featuring ethnic foods, performers, and vendors. Contact Mayor's Office of Business and Cultural Development, 635-3911.

♦ • COMITES, North End, June 6 "Italian Republic Day" begins at noon in the North End's North Square. The cultural festival features Italian artists, food, and entertainment. Contact Pasquale Luise, 738-0535.

♦ • Quincentennial Ecumenical Celebration, June 14. "Thanksgiving from the Family of Humankind" — celebrated at the Don Orione Madonna Queen National Shrine, Orient Avenue, East Boston, at 2 p.m. Contact A. Mario Salvatore, 479-9377.

♦ • Quincentennial Essay Awards Reception, June 14. Winners of the Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Essay Contest, sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts OSIA, are feted in the Great Hall of the State House from 4 to 6 p.m. Contact the Grand Lodge, 489-5234.

♦ • Boston Society of Architects, June 19-22. Annual convention at Hynes Auditorium offers events and exhibits emphasizing the discovery of the built environment. Call 951-1433.

♦ • Small Ships Mural, South Station, June 23 through Aug. 31. A 90-foot mural, displayed at South Station, depicts ships from more than

15 countries and images provided by more than 1000 visitors to the station. Call 451-2266.

♦ • West Indian Jamboree, July 12. Jamboree celebrated in Franklin Park, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Contact Mayor's Office of Business and Cultural Development, 635-3911.

♦ • Festive Pueritorieño, South End, July 22. Festival held in the South End's Rotch Park. Contact Mayor's Office of Business and Cultural Development, 635-3911.

♦ • Caravels, Ships in Port, Aug. 3-12. Replicas of the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria visit Boston, accompanied by an exhibit illustrating the historical context of Columbus's voyages. Contact Mayor's Office of Business and Cultural Development, 635-3911.

♦ • 81st Annual Fishermen's Feast, August 14-16. Events including the blessing of the fleet in Boston and the Flight of the Angel over North Street will be held as part of the 81st Annual Fishermen's Feast. Live entertainment, various cultural activities, and an exhibit centered on Christopher Columbus are also planned. Contact Peter DeGrandis at 248-0343.

♦ • South Boston Italian Pride Night, Aug. 18. Events held at Emmet and East Third Streets. Rain date Aug. 25. Contact Mayor's Office of Business and Cultural Development, 635-3911.

♦ • Caribbean Carnival, Aug. 22. Carnival held on Blue Hill Avenue from 1 to 7 p.m. Contact Mayor's Office of Business and Cultural Development, 635-3911.

• US Cup 1992, Foxboro, June 4 and 7. International soccer tournament at Foxboro Stadium features teams from the United States, Italy, Portugal, and Ireland.

June 4, Italy vs. Ireland at 4 p.m.

June 7, Ireland vs. Portugal at 4 p.m. Contact Boston Soccer, 439-7700.

• Taste of Massachusetts, Sept. 3-7. City Hall Plaza hosts specialties from various Massachusetts restaurants, daily from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Also featured are arts and crafts and performances. National acts include Blood, Sweat and Tears, Manly Moondog, and Cool Cats (featuring Cheers star Woody Harrelson). Call 635-3911.

• Faneuil Hall "Rock the Cradle," Sept. 12-13. Join the Faneuil Hall Birthday Celebration on Sept. 12 and Ecumenical Service on Sept. 13,



both at the outdoor Marketplace. All faiths welcome. Contact Faneuil Hall Restoration and Preservation Trust, 242-0707.

## MUSEUMS/EXHIBITS

♦ • Museums of Boston, May 1992. "1492 Things To Discover at the Museums of Boston" is the theme for Museum Goers Month. The 39-member Museums of Boston (MOB) creates special exhibits for the month of May. Contact individual museums.

♦ • Museum of Transportation, through Dec. 27. "Different by Design" illustrates the significance of innovative automotive design as the creative synthesis of art, technology, and fantasy. The Children's Activity Center features climb-on vehicles: dune buggy, Thunderbird engine, antique gas pump, trolley-car front. Museum is at 15 Newton St., Brook-

America.

Len Cabral tells tales of his Cape Verdean ancestry.

The Wampanoag Dancers perform traditional dances.

Bamilede Osumarea African Drummers and Dancers are master craftsmen, musicians, and instructors in African rhythms, dance, folklore, and crafts.

Patric Lacroix performs Afro-contemporary dance.

Capoeira Camera presents traditional martial arts of the Afro-Brazilian people, who disguised the martial arts as a form of dance in their fight against Portuguese slavery in colonial Brazil.

Oct. 11-12, Native American Pow-Wow, in collaboration with Dance Umbrella, culminates the museum's year-long program on multiple perspectives with various performances.

"In the Shadow of Columbus: Ethnic Influences in New England History." Prominent local scholars evaluate the concept of ethnicity in American society by examining Native American, African, and European influences on New England culture and history. Lectures held at Boston's historic Old South Meeting House, 7-8 p.m., with question-and-answer period. Contact Pat Leehey, 523-2338.

## RESOURCES

♦ ♦ • Byam School, Chelmsford. *Discover America* is an original script, including historical and original songs, written for second graders. The play is designed to promote understanding of the many cultures America comprises. Contact Bonnie Wilder, (508) 256-8376.

♦ • The Eire Society of Boston. *The Eire Society of Boston Bulletin*, February-March 1992 issue, features an article concerning Columbus's relationship to Ireland and the questions surrounding his possible trip to that country before his voyages of discovery. Also discussed is the possibility he had northern European crew members. Sightseeing information is available regarding the area and church where Columbus prayed. Contact George Ryan, 545-1822.



line. Contact Naomi Roth, 522-6547.

♦ ♦ • The Children's Museum of Boston, 1992. "If We Could Talk To Columbus" allows a present-day Native American to listen and respond to words from Columbus's log; scheduled for fall 1992. Other public programs and performances at the museum include:

Voice of the Turtle, performing 15th-century music from the Jews of Spain, reminding us of the Jews' expulsion from that country in 1492.

Ramon de Los Reyes Spanish Dance Theatre presents Flamenco regional folk dances of Spain and Latin

Contact the Children's Museum, 426-6500.

♦ • Museum of Fine Arts, Sept. 16-Dec. 13. "Lure of Italy: American Artists and the Italian Experience, 1760-1914." See how American artists, including Whistler and Sargent, were influenced by Italian art and culture. Contact the MFA, 267-9300.

## LECTURES

♦ • New England's Ethnic Influences, Sept. 3, 10, 17, and 24. The Paul Revere Memorial Association and Old South Association presents

ated for fifth graders, this is a participatory-lesson plan that encourages research and creativity. Contact Kevin Crowley, (508) 651-7189.

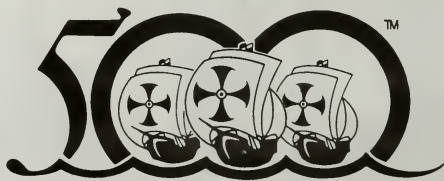
♦ ♦ • Wheelock College, Boston. "Columbus Quincentenary, 1492-1992: Selected Titles for the Elementary School Classroom" is a 12-page annotated bibliography of recent children's materials about Columbus, Native Americans, and other books providing background and context for the study of Columbus. Resources for adults are also available. Contact Ruth Heespelink, 734-5200, ext. 251, Monday-Thursday, noon to 5 p.m.

# Remembering Columbus

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**I**N THIS CENTURY, CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS has been portrayed as the first American hero, honored annually in schools and churches and on Main Streets across the United States. But for several centuries after he made his first voyage across the Atlantic, he was little more than a footnote in popular history. North America was predominantly French and English; even scholars were disinclined to heap credit upon an Italian navigator who sailed for Spain. But after the American Revolution, the process of Americanizing Columbus began. The nation's first Columbus Day commemoration took place in New York in 1792, and it wasn't long before Americans laid claim to the explorer and recast him to suit the heroic ideals of a just-born revolutionary nation. In 1828, writer Washington Irving published a romanticized and fictionalized Columbus biography, and it's from this book that we get most of our Columbus misconceptions — that he quarreled with Catholic authorities who insisted the world was flat, that he died in chains.

The real Columbus story is still a subject of serious speculation. America's discoverer has been embraced as an ethnic hero by Italian-Americans (although the Knights of Columbus was originally formed in Connecticut by Irish Catholics in the late 1800s). But some scholars claim that he was, in fact, a Spanish Jew whose family moved to Genoa and was converted to the Church. Another theory asserts he was born to a noble family of the Eastern Roman Empire living on an island controlled by Genoa. The very fact that Columbus was the Americas' European discoverer is itself routinely contested, with Irish and Scandinavian historians claiming their seamen landed here centuries before Columbus was born. In the US, we tend to accept the storybook Columbus — the renegade, visionary hero/adventurer who stuck to his guns in the face of parochial ignorance and was martyred despite his success.



CELEBRATE DISCOVERY

In 1892, on the 400th anniversary of Columbus's landing, President Benjamin Harrison declared October 12 an unofficial national holiday. The next year, Columbus's image was again updated to match the tenor of the times

when his name was linked to the wonders of science and industry displayed at Chicago's Columbian World Exposition. Columbus Day as we know it has been celebrated officially since 1920.

Latin America traditionally has celebrated Columbus's first voyage not to honor the man but to commemorate the coming of Iberian culture to this hemisphere. The holiday in Mexico and many South and Central American countries is called *Día de la Raza* (Day of the Race). But in those Latin American regions that are dominated by the traditions of the native populations that were disrupted by the coming of the Europeans, the event is marked by festivals based in bitter sarcasm and resentment. Similarly,



**Christopher Columbus**

native Americans in the Caribbean and in North America have, in recent decades, reminded mainstream America that Columbus's landing signaled the beginning of the end for native cultures.

It's been almost 200 years since Washington Irving's unscholarly text described Columbus as a 15th-century ideological counterpart to, say, Sam Adams or Nathan Hale. Irving was rewriting history to bolster patriotism, and what he wrote is what most Americans grew up believing. On this quincentennial anniversary of the Columbus landing, reconsidering who Columbus was and what his accidental discovery

of the New World has meant for half a millennium is, perhaps, the most appropriate celebration possible — another logical step in the evolution of Columbus's reputation and legacy. □

A thorough treatment of the Columbus image through history can be found in *Columbus and the Age of Discovery* by Zvi Dor-Ner (William Morrow & Company, 1991), the companion book to the seven-part PBS series of the same name, which will be rebroadcast weekly, beginning Monday July 20, at 8 p.m. on WGBH, Channel 2.



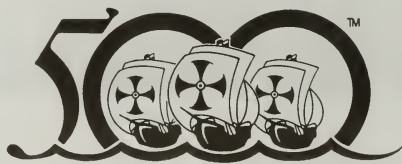
# Where were you in 1492?

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**I**N GRADE SCHOOL, WE LEARNED THAT AMERICAN HISTORY BEGAN ON OCTOBER 12, 1492, when Genoa-born Christopher Columbus, Admiral of the Ocean Sea, arrived at the tiny Caribbean island of San Salvador. We also learned that Columbus mistakenly thought he had sailed around the globe and reached Asia (which he did indeed believe, even to his death in 1506) despite the objections of everyone in Europe who thought the world was flat (which they did not; only the very ignorant maintained that primitive perspective). This basic outline, plus the names of Columbus's ships (the flagship *Santa Maria* and the two caravels, the *Nina* and the *Pinta*) and the fact that Columbus sailed for Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand of Spain, were the highlights of the barebones introduction to history for generations of children.

But this year's Columbus Quincentennial has prompted a re-evaluation of what "everybody knows" about the great navigator and his world. And the result has been revelatory. Detractors have come forth to contradict the traditional super-heroic image of Columbus, but historians have also re-examined the impact of his four voyages on both the Old World and the New.

Columbus, master mariner, was more than just the man who got here first. His expeditions opened the way for commerce and colonization that established and secured Western Europe's global political position for centuries. In the 1500s, as today, trade meant money and power. The first steps toward building that trade were taken by Columbus, who made trans-Atlantic commerce possible by daring to test the trade winds. (There was a real fear among 15th-century seamen that once you sailed west you could not return.) In doing so, Columbus defined the sea routes that traders used for centuries. His later voyages opened the way to the southern Caribbean islands and to the South American mainland. The Spanish colonies and trading systems, which began within decades of Columbus's voyages, determined the course of progress in the New World for



CELEBRATE DISCOVERY

centuries. (Even the original French and British colonies of North America were initiated more as outposts to funnel trade-goods to Europe than as permanent settlements.)

Expecting the riches of the Far East, Columbus and the explorers who followed

him found the riches of the Americas. During the first 200 years after Columbus's voyages, life in Europe was transformed. New products — corn, tobacco, potatoes, sugarcane — became essential commodities in European markets. The trade — what's been called the Columbian Exchange — worked both ways. Livestock — horses, cattle, domesticated fowl — were introduced to the New World. Gold, other mineral riches, and furs were exported back to Europe. The Americas made Western Europe wealthy, and Columbus opened the door to the Americas. His own efforts to establish trade and administer settle-



ments largely failed, but it wasn't long before Spain, France, Portugal, and England were in the New World to stay.

If world history since 1500 has been dominated by Western values, it is because Columbus made the vital connection between Europe and the Americas. Long after most New World colonies had gained independence, the legacy of the Columbian Exchange continued to ensure the global influence of Europe and the Americas. As for Columbus himself, his courage and vision have, over the years, come to represent the American ideals of adventure, enterprise, and risk-taking. Columbus was indeed a brave man who dared sail beyond what other captains feared was the point of no return. And he dreamed of bringing wealth and prosperity to Western Europe.

Columbus's voyage of discovery was the landmark event of an era when Europe was in flux, trade was expanding, and the medieval world was vanishing. The 1492 voyage to America wasn't so much a long-shot investment on the part of Spain as it was the logical result of economic and social currents moving through Europe. And Columbus was not so much a reckless adventurer as an ambitious seafarer determined to expand commercial trends already in place. As America today is multi-cultural, the colonization of our hemisphere involved people of many countries; some contributed directly, others were major players in the background.

## THE OLD WORLD

Halfway through the millennium, Europe was a collection of small independent city states linked by trade. The nations as we know them were, for the most part, not yet solidified. There were kingdoms large and small (including France, Hungary, Portugal, Sicily, Castile, Denmark, England, and Scotland) and empires (the Holy Roman and the Ottoman) that controlled large tracts of Europe. Politically (and militarily), the crisis of the day centered on the struggle between the Islamic Turks of the Ottoman Empire and Christian states. The Ottomans made constant efforts to expand and conquer western and northern Europe. Spain was a Christian superpower. By the end of the century, it had captured and dissolved the Moorish state of Granada, thus preventing Ottoman traders and explorers from leaving the Mediterranean through the Straits of Gibraltar. In 1492, Spain also expelled both Jews and followers of Islam from its territory, diminishing its cultural riches, but minimizing non-Christian influence in western Europe. It is against the backdrop of this international scene that Columbus approached Isabella and Ferdinand to back his first voyage. The fruits of Columbus's discoveries, combined with the flood of new thought, creativity, and invention of Renaissance Italy (Michelangelo was just beginning his career in 1492), spawned such a

rush of wealth and technological advance that Turkish expansion was stopped in its tracks and the course of European history was forever changed.

Most of the richest people in Europe in 1492 were merchants. To the north, trade routes connected Germany and Denmark with Scandinavia and Britain by sea. These ports were fed with goods via overland routes to southern Europe. Tudor King Henry VII sat on the English throne; his reign marked the end of the War of the Roses, which had distracted England from developing international markets for 30 years. Italy, by contrast, that year ended 20 years of prosperous stability directed by Florentine ruler Lorenzo de' Medici, who died in 1492, leaving the Italian states vulnerable to invasion. England and Flanders primarily traded wool; Russia and continental Europe provided wheat to the flourishing world markets; furs and herring were shipped from Scandinavia; silks and spices trickled north from the Middle East; and books and handcrafted luxuries came from Italy. Mediterranean trade was dominated by the strategically located Italian kingdoms of Naples, Sicily, Florence, and Genoa. European commerce was blossoming.

The new economics spurred the advances in mapmaking and in navigational tools and technology that made Columbus's trip possible. Portugal led the way, exploring the coast of Africa as far as the Cape of Good Hope by 1488. Africa itself was crisscrossed by ancient caravan routes connecting the Mediterranean coast with the highly advanced Southern Sahara Islamic empires of Mali and Songhay, and the more southern states of Benin, Ife, Owo and the Kongo. After the Portuguese made contact with these states, a brisk trade in copper, carved ivories, cloth, and, ultimately, slaves began with Europe.



## THE ASIAN WORLD

The distraction of discovering the Americas aside, Europe's goal in the Age of Exploration was to trade with Asia, fabled as the source of unimaginable riches since the 13th-century travels of Marco Polo. Asia in 1492 was home to advanced and wealthy civilizations. Japan was a feudal state loosely governed by an emperor and a shogun who oversaw constant territorial wars among powerful lords. Japan, whose religion was a mixture of Buddhism, Shintoism, and Chinese philosophy, traded with mainland Asia, and produced the finest steel weapons.

China, united under the Ming Dynasty since 1368, was, in the time of Columbus, already retreating into isolationism. But the legacy of science, technology, astronomy, and high literacy handed down from previous centuries was still strong. The Ming navy had recently proved itself to be the most accomplished fleet on earth. In the early 1400, Chinese ships had reached the Persian



Gulf, the Red Sea, India, Java, and East Africa. Just as Europeans underappreciated the scholarship and social accomplishments of the African kingdoms, they naively thought of China as a heathen land filled with gold and riches for plunder.

## THE NEW WORLD

The Native Americans that Columbus mistook for Asians were the Tainos people, descendants of Arawak tribes that left the mainland of what is now Venezuela and Colombia to colonize the Greater Antilles around 900 BC. They engaged in agriculture; peaceful and virtually unarmed, they were easily victimized, exploited, enslaved, and eventually obliterated by the Old World invaders over the course of the next century.

Far more developed, and more warlike, native peoples ruled vast territories on the American mainland. The Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan (in Mexico) boasted canals, aqueducts, bridges, and a sophisticated road system. The Aztecs, who had developed a society based on rigid class distinctions, assimilated skills from all the peoples they conquered. They built pyramids, worked gold, cultivated a wide variety of vegetables, and traded in coca, salt, and rubber.

By 1492, the prosperous Mayan empire of Yucatan had long since fallen into decline. The temples and pyramids that sit overgrown in the rainforest today were already empty when Columbus arrived in the New World, and the once-peaceful Mayan farmers were preoccupied with tribal warfare.

In the Andes Mountains of South America, the Inca Empire thrived and expanded, despite its lack of a written language, under the feudal rule of the divine "inka,"

believed to be the sun god in human form. Like the Aztecs, the Inca had developed complex roads and canals and became powerful through conquest. Trade was primarily domestic — between the miners and herders who lived in the mountains and the farmers and fishermen of the coastal lowlands.

The dire consequences of Columbus's landing for all these native peoples, and for their North American counterparts, were swift. Those who weren't all but exterminated saw their cultures destroyed. Before long, European influence dominated the Americas, and a new civilization emerged. For the New World, this cultural displacement is the strongest legacy of Columbus.

Over the centuries, American writers and pop historians have been anxious to cast Christopher Columbus in the mold of a lone and courageous hero, bucking the tide to follow his dream. While this glorification made a good story, it left us with the wrong impression. His courage and accomplishments are undeniable, but he didn't act alone. Columbus, too, lived in a multicultural world — one that was already going places. □

Resources used to prepare this publication include the following:

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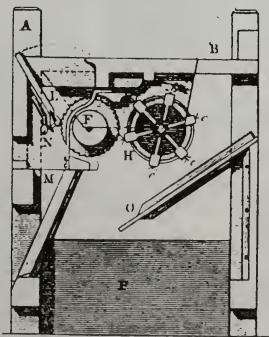


# Massachusetts innovations

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**C**OLUMBUS LANDED WELL SOUTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. But the Americanized version of his story reflects the spirit of innovation and discovery that has characterized New England since colonial times. With its traditional emphasis on science, literature, religion, and education, Massachusetts has played a leading role in the development of American institutions and technology. And of course, the American Revolution, which gave rise to modern democracy, was plotted and kicked off here in the Bay State. Massachusetts was a hotbed of abolitionism prior to the Civil War. And afterwards, it took its place as a leading industrial state. The long list of Massachusetts inventions, firsts, and innovations gives us ample reason to celebrate discovery in this Columbus Quincentennial year. The following are but a few examples.

- ◆ Harvard was established in 1636, the first college in the colonies.
- ◆ In 1642, Massachusetts's colonial legislature passed the hemisphere's first universal-education law, and for centuries, the state's public-school system served as a model for the rest of the country.
- ◆ America's first published poet was Anne Bradstreet, wife of an early Massachusetts Bay Colony governor. Her first collection was printed without her consent in London in 1650.
- ◆ The first capital-punishment verdict was handed down in 1630 by a Pilgrim jury. John Billington, convicted of murdering another colonist, was hanged, drawn, and quartered.
- ◆ *Publick Occurrences*, the colonies' first newspaper, was published by coffeehouse-owner Benjamin Harris in Boston on September 25, 1690. The content so offended the Bay Colony's religious leadership that it was censored into oblivion after one edition.
- ◆ In 1793, Westboro's Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin — a device for separating seeds from cotton balls.



The cotton gin

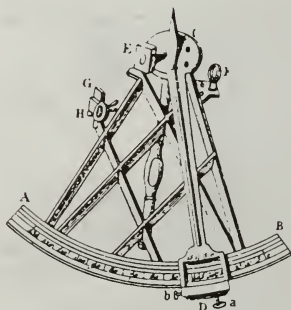
The gin made the Southern cotton industry so efficient that it increased the demand for slaves. Whitney's larger contribution to American industry was perfecting the concept of interchangeable parts.

- ◆ Mathematical genius Nathaniel Bowditch devised the system of navigation used by all American military and commercial sailors. His *New American Practical Navigator*, first published in 1802, stands as the definitive text to this day.
- ◆ New England's first candy company was started in Salem around 1806 by an immigrant Britisher known as Mrs. Spencer.
- ◆ In 1810, entrepreneur Francis Cabot Lowell visited British textile mills and secretly copied plans for machinery he and his partners used to start up the textile mills in the city that now bears his name.
- ◆ The first public building in America to feature indoor plumbing was Boston's Tremont Hotel, which opened its doors in 1829.



Alexander Graham Bell

- ◆ Starting fires became easier, if not safer, in 1836, when Chicopee's Alonzo Philips introduced his patented friction matches.
- ◆ In 1839, lawyer/educator Horace Mann established the nation's first "normal school" for the education of teachers, in Lexington.
- ◆ Charles Goodyear first vulcanized rubber in his Woburn workshop in 1839.
- ◆ The monkey wrench was patented in 1841 by Worcester's Loring Coes.
- ◆ Elias Howe Jr. constructed the first sewing machine, in Boston, in 1843.
- ◆ The nation's first toothbrush factory opened in Haydenville in 1843.
- ◆ Surgical anesthesia was first used, at Massachusetts General Hospital, in 1846, when Dr. John Collins Warren removed a tumor from a patient under ether administered by a dentist, William Morton.



Bowditch's *New American Practical Navigator*

- ◆ Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1875-'76 while he was working at Boston University as a speech therapist specializing in helping the deaf. He was fiddling around in search of a system for sending multiple telegraph signals over a single line. His short-term goal was to win a profitable patent so he could afford to marry one of his students.
- ◆ The nation's first telephone exchange was installed, in Lowell, in 1877 by Charles Glidden.
- ◆ The soft drink Moxie was first concocted by a Salem doctor named Augustin Thompson as a patent medicine or "nerve tonic" in 1884.
- ◆ The first appendectomy was performed at Mass General in 1886.
- ◆ In 1886, Great Barrington became the first town in the US to receive commercial electricity.
- ◆ Basketball was invented in 1891 by James A. Naismith.



smith, a phys-ed teacher at the International YMCA Training School in Springfield. Equipment for the first games comprised a soccer ball and a pair of peach baskets. The first women's basketball team was organized at Smith College in 1893.

- ◆ On April 19, 1892 Charles Duryea test-drove the first gasoline-powered carriage through the streets of Springfield. He later founded America's first car manufacturer to produce his vehicles.
- ◆ In 1893 Wellesley College English department head Katharine Lee Bates returned from a trip West and wrote the patriotic hymn "America the Beautiful." The song became even better known than "America," which was penned by Baptist minister Samuel Francis Smith for a Park



**Charles Duryea**

Street Church picnic in 1832.

- ◆ Holyoke YMCA director William G. Morgan devised the game of volleyball in 1895 as part of a competitive exercise program for local businessmen.
- ◆ In 1895, King C. Gillette invented the safety razor, which became the mainstay of Boston's Gillette manufacturing company in 1901. His innovation introduced the concept of disposable, replaceable products to American industry.
- ◆ In 1897, the nation's first subway system was initiated when electrified trolley No. 1752 made the underground trip between Boston's Boylston and Park Streets.
- ◆ The brothers Francis and Freelan Stanley developed America's first commercial steam-powered automobile in 1898, sold their patents in 1899, and opened a



**Surgical anesthesia at Mass General, 1846**



### Frozen foods

plant on the Newton/Watertown line in 1901 to produce steam cars from a new and improved design. In 1906, a souped-up Stanley car broke the two-miles-per-minute land-speed record. The Stanley brothers also started America's first production-line violin-making business and invented a dry-plate photo-negative process later sold to Kodak.

- ◆ The stamped-metal industry was pioneered at the turn of the century by Worcester engineer John Woodman Higgins, whose Worcester Pressed Steel factory turned out everything from airplane parts to howitzer casings to bicycle fenders.
- ◆ Frozen food was introduced in 1925 by Gloucester's Clarence Birdseye.
- ◆ Dr. Robert Goddard launched the first successful liquid-fuel rocket in a field in Auburn on March 16, 1926. Goddard, known as the Father of Modern Rocketry, later helped develop the technology that made the US space program possible.
- ◆ Massachusetts's Earl Tupper first marketed his line of food-storage containers — Tupperware — in 1942.
- ◆ In 1947, Cambridge's Dr. Edwin Land introduced the Polaroid Land Camera, which developed pictures on the spot. The first cameras were sold at Boston's Jordan Marsh.



**Dr. Edwin Land**

- ◆ Elmer's Glue was invented in Beverly by Ashworth Stowe.
- ◆ In 1950, a medical team working at Boston's Peter Bent Brigham Hospital developed the first kidney machine.
- ◆ The chocolate-chip cookie was invented by Ruth Wakefield at the Tollhouse Inn restaurant in Whitman.
- ◆ Massachusetts can rightly lay claim to the development of modern hi-fi technology. Cambridge-based



**Dr. Robert Ballard**

Acoustic Research produced the first acoustic-suspension speakers in the mid '50s under the direction of New York's Edgar Villchur and Cambridge engineer Henry Kloss, who later went on to make affordable high-quality audio gear under the KLH label and produce one of the first commercially marketed big-screen projection TVs. Other local audio legends include Roy Allison, MIT's Amar Bose, Springfield's Herman H. Scott, and Belmont electrostatic speaker innovator Arthur Janszen.

- ◆ The high-speed strobe light used in taking flash pictures was invented at MIT by Harold "Doc" Edgerton.
- ◆ The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, established in 1930, has led the field in marine geology and oceanography. Its most famous project was Robert Ballard's recent expedition that located the sunken Titanic. □

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